- (b) the quantity of iron-ore exported during last financial year;
- (c) the amount of revenue earned by Government from this export during this period; and
- (d) whether Government intend to levy any cess on the export of iron-ore per ton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) and (c) The quantity of iron ore exported during the last financial year and the foreign exchange earned from this export is as follows:

| Year | Quantity exported (million tonnes) | Foreign exchange earned (US \$ million) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 2005-06 (Prov.) | 89.27 | 3861 |

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

Dry ports in India

1489. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of dry ports in India, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is a dearth of dry ports in India; and
- (c) if so, the action being taken by Government to establish more dry ports in the country, in order to reduce congestion, by allowing container to transit smoothly at seaports without further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Inland Container Depots/ Container Freight Stations (ICD/CFS) are commonly known as dry ports. The state-wise list of approved ICD/CFS are as under:—

| Andhra Pradesh | 12 |
|----------------|----|
| Assam | 1 |
| Bihar | 2 |
| Chandigarh | 1 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1 |

| | RAJYA SABHA | [6 December, 2006] |
|----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Delhi | 2 | |
| Goa | 1 | |
| Gujarat | 25 | |
| Haryana | 9 | |
| Jharkhand | 1 | |
| J&K | 2 | |
| Karnataka | 7 | |
| Kerala | 7 | |
| Maharashtra | 44 | |
| Madhya Pradesh | 4 | |
| Orissa | 1 | |
| Pondicherry | 3 | |
| Punjab | 6 | |
| Rajasthan | 9 | |
| Tamil Nadu | 51 | |
| Uttar Pradesh | 15 | |

(b) and (c) Due to increasing containerisation there is demand for setting up more ICDs/CFSs. Applications for ICDs/CFSs are decided on merits by the Government. Private Sector participation in setting up such facilities in market driven and is encouraged.

6

SEZ at Gwalior

- †1490. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that setting up of a Special Economic Zone in Gwalior has been agreed to in principle; and
- (b) if so, by when the work relating to its setting up is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

West Bengal

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.